

Simple and Complete Predicates

- 1e.** The **simple predicate**, or **verb**, is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.

The **complete predicate** consists of a verb and all the words that modify the verb and complete its meaning.

SIMPLE PREDICATE Aidan **goes** to the movies every weekend.

COMPLETE PREDICATE Aidan **goes to the movies every weekend**.

EXERCISE A Decide whether the underlined word or word group is the complete predicate or the verb (simple predicate). Above each, write *CP* for *complete predicate* or *V* for *verb*.

Examples 1. ^{CP} One hundred years ago, families entertained themselves. ^{CP}

2. They ^V would have been astonished by television.

1. Motion-picture cameras and projectors were invented in the mid-1890s.
2. The first projected movie was shown in Paris in 1895.
3. Thomas Edison helped develop the movie projector.
4. At first, movies must have amazed people.
5. For many years, moviegoers watched newsreels at movie theaters.

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, draw one line under the complete predicate, and then circle the verb.

Example 1. Will the temperature reach seventy degrees before breakfast?

6. Our trip took us through misty mountains and shady, green forests.
7. Dairy cows were grazing on the lower slopes of the hills.
8. We arrived at our destination before late afternoon.
9. The whole family was looking forward to a pleasant vacation.
10. Have you ever breathed air as pure as country air?
11. We planned as many outdoor activities as possible.
12. My personal favorite was the daily canoe trip upriver.
13. My older brother had never canoed before.
14. Did he catch fish from the stream for breakfast?
15. My sister caught several trout.